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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

PRP  
385

COUNTRY Hungary

SUBJECT Armored Battalion at Szentes  
25X1APLACE ACQUIRED  
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DATE (OF INFO.) Oct 53

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25X1B Armored Battalion at Szentes

1. [Redacted]
2. Superior Command: Rifle division command at Kiskunfélegyháza
3. Quarters: In the new armored barracks south of the road to Szarvas
4. Organization: Staff and staff obteilung about 70 men
 

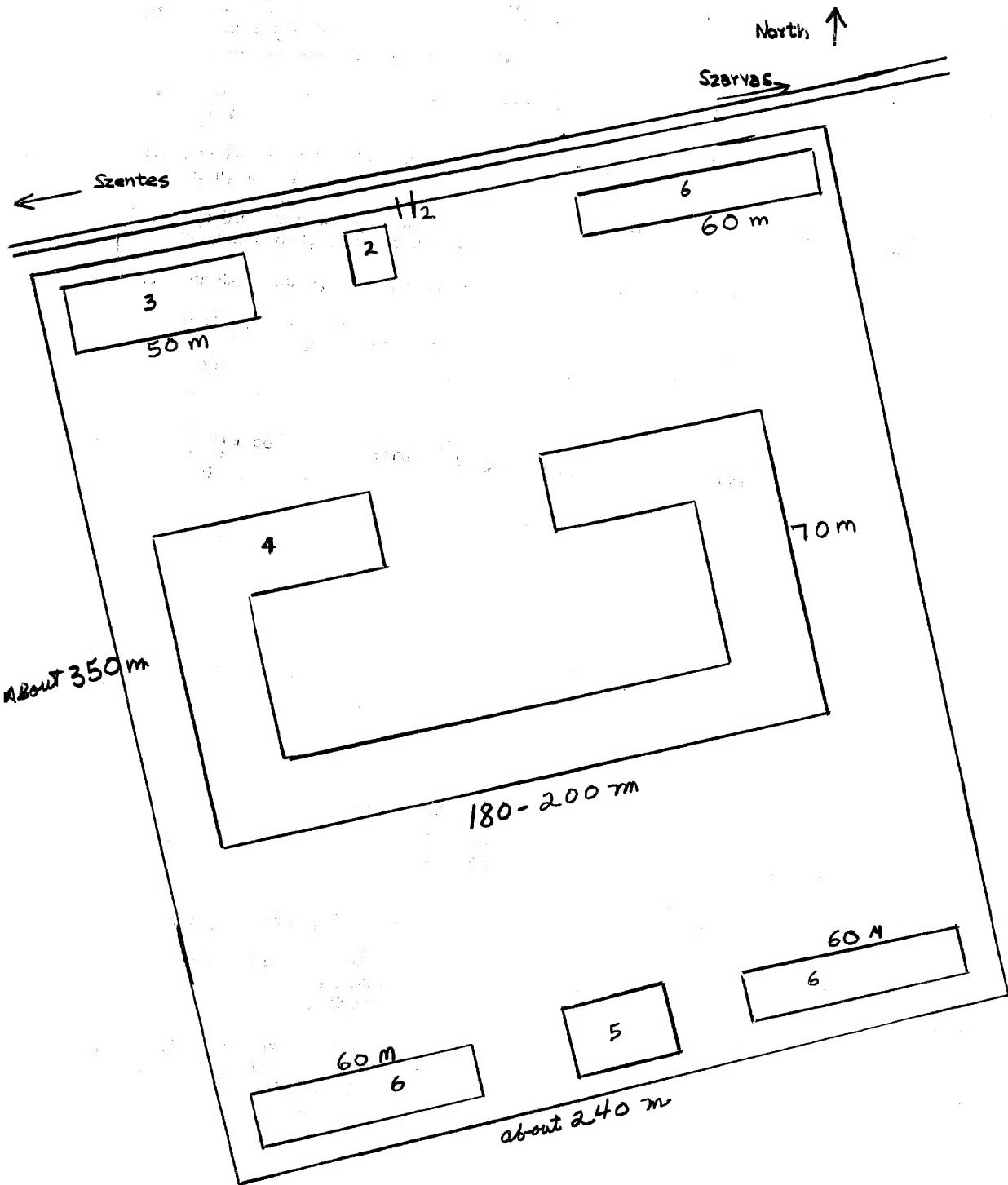
Reconnaissance platoon	"	40	"
Three armored companies	"	250	"
5. Armament: Reconnaissance platoon, machine pistols  
Armored companies, each 15 repeating pistols, 45 machine pistols,  
20 carbines, 3 light machine guns
6. Armor: 26 T-34 tanks with 76.2 mm guns
7. Vehicle Park: 2 Skoda open personnel carriers; 1 closed personnel carrier of  
Soviet type; 3 German personnel carriers; three 1.5-ton trucks;  
fifteen 3-ton trucks; 30 motorcycles, Gsepel type.
8. Training: From 1 Oct to 23 Dec, recruit and infantry training. Special training  
by groups begins on 1 Jan for gunners, machine gunners, drivers, tank  
drivers, intelligence service.

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SKETCH OF ARMORED FORCE BARRACKS AT SZENTES



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9. Officers:

- a. Battalion commander, Captain Károly Szilasi, about 36 years old, medium height, powerful; said to have been a noncommissioned officer in the royal Hungarian honved; very popular.
- b. Reconnaissance Platoon commander, Lieutenant Kátaí, 24 years old, brown hair, slim.
- c. The 2nd Armored Company commander, Lt. Gyula Sebestyen, 25 years old, brown hair, tall.
- d. The 3rd Armored Company commander, First Lt. Kálmán Lestyan, a farmer's son, 28 years old, very popular.
- e. Quartermaster, Lieutenant Molnar, about 25 years old, well liked.

10. Recruiting: On 1 Oct 52 the battalion received about 140 recruits, of whom 40 percent came from Budapest and neighborhood, 30 percent from West Hungary, 20 percent from North Hungary, and 10 percent from other places.

11. Enclosure (A) is a sketch of the barracks. On this sketch, the figure 1 indicates the main entrance; 2, the guard post; 3, medical examining office, infirmary and depot; 4, main building of ground floor and three stories, for enlisted men and command; 5, depot; 6, garages.

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ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch of Armored Force Barracks at Szentes

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